



OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE

MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mississippi Natural Science Museum to Host Arbor Day Celebration on February 13

Members of Mississippi's forestry and natural resources community will conduct a statewide Arbor Day celebration on Saturday, February 13 at the Natural Science Museum in Jackson at 1:00 p.m. The theme of the 2010 Arbor Day Celebration is "Celebrating Our Rich Heritage, Planting for Our Future." This statewide celebration will fit with the "Home Sweet Home" Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl exhibit being promoted at the museum. This year Walt Grayson will read the "Smokey Bear Story" at the Arbor Day Celebration.

A limited supply of tree seedlings will be available to the public at the Natural Science Museum courtesy of Plum Creek Nursery. Mississippi's Arbor Day is officially designated as the second Friday of February, which this year is February 12.

Arbor Day also marks the beginning of Tree Planting Week in Mississippi. During Tree Planting Week school children all over Mississippi learn about the benefits of trees and the important role that trees play in their daily lives.

During February 12-18, 2010, tree planting week activities are sponsored by the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Mississippi Forestry Commission, Mississippi Forestry Association, MS Department of Environmental Quality, Mississippi State University, Mississippi Urban Forest Council, MS Dept. of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks, USDA Forest Service, and the Natural Resource Conservation Service. To find out more about local Arbor Day and Tree Planting week activities contact your local office of the Soil and Water Conservation District or the Mississippi Forestry Commission.

Regular Museum admission applies to the Arbor Day Activities Seniors \$3.00, Adults \$5.00 and Children (3-18) \$3.00. www.museum.mdwfp.com 601-354-7303

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